

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT



SUMMARY OF
ACTIVITY IN CUBA

(1 JULY 1967 -
31 DECEMBER 1967)

NPIC/R-41/68

APRIL 1968

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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

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FIGURE 1. DEPLOYMENT OF SA-2 SITES

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SUMMARY

This report summarizes the extent of military activity in Cuba during the second half of 1967. Thirty-four missions were flown over Cuba during this period. Missile activity during this period consisted of the beginning construction of 3 new SA-2 sites, the completion of 1 SA-2 site begun during the 1st half of 1967 and minor fluctuations in deployment of cruise missile equipment. Military activity was relatively static, with new construction underway at several airfields, some redeployment of aircraft and military equipment, and no abnormal naval movements. No new electronic equipment was observed although some redeployment was noted.

This summary includes the following categories of activity:

1. Missile (SA-2 and Cruise) Activity
2. Airfield Activity
3. Naval and Port Activity
4. Electronics Activity
5. Military Ground Activity
6. Other Activity

SA-2 Missile Activity

At the close of this reporting period (31 Dec 67) there were 24 operational SA-2 missile sites and four sites in mid-to-late stages of construction in Cuba (Figure 1), as compared to 21 operational sites and three additional sites under construction at the close of the last semi-annual reporting period, 30 Jun 67. The fluctuations in order of battle at the operational sites were generally similar during both 6-month periods. The primary SA-2 deployment areas continue to be La Habana, Santa Clara, and Santiago de Cuba/Holguin.

Activity at the following SA-2 sites is worthy of note.

1. Punta Ballenatos (23-04N 082-29W). Mis-

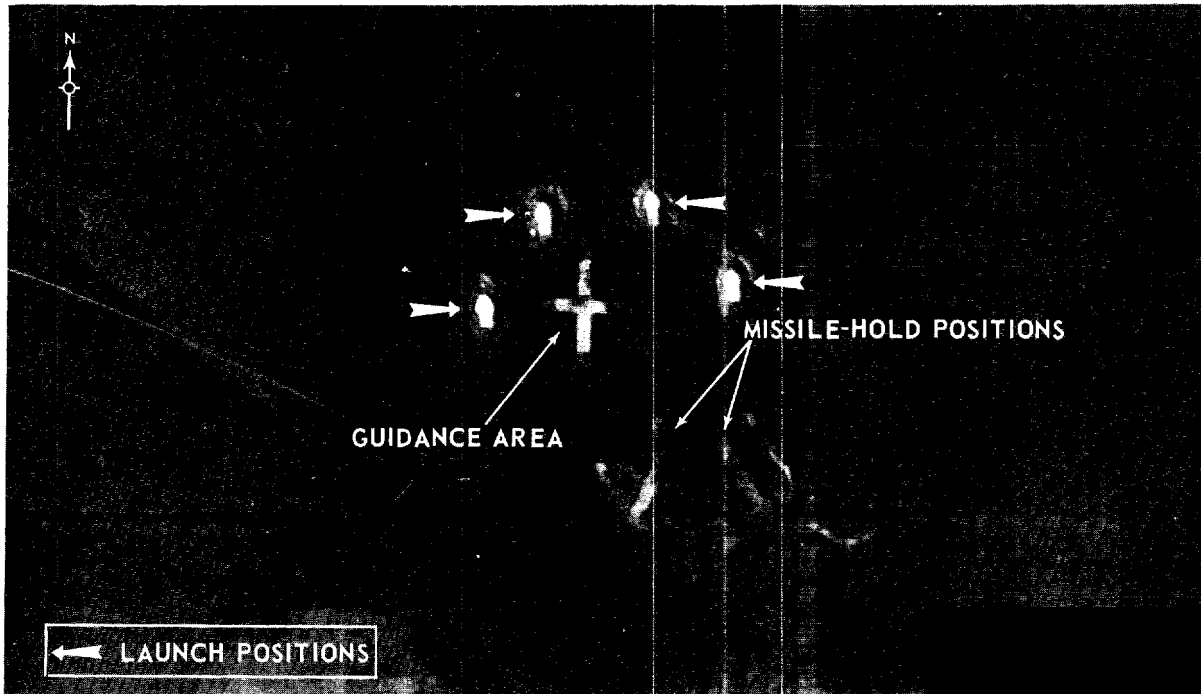
vetted launch positions, a revetted guidance area, and a revetted possible missile-hold position; all unoccupied and in mid-stage of construction. Observations of the site continued [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a radical modification in the construction pattern of the site enabling it to accommodate an SA-2 system (Figures 3 and 4) was observed. The four previously observed launch revetments were changed from the drive-in to the drive-through type, and the construction of two new drive-through revetments had begun. The outer and the star-shaped inner roads were under construction. The two previously existing missile-hold positions had been filled in and two drive-through missile-hold revetments were under construction on the south side of the site. Observation of the Punta Ballenatos site continued and on [REDACTED] it was noted that four launch revetments were now of the drive-in type; the bunker in the guidance area and the 2 missile-hold bunkers appeared complete, but not earth covered; 9 support buildings were complete, and 7 buildings were under construction (Figure 5).

2. Moa (20-39N 074-58W). This field deployed operational site located 1.6 nm west of Moa was deployed and subsequently abandoned during the reporting period. When first observed on [REDACTED] the order of battle was as follows: 6 emplaced launchers (5 with missiles), 8 missile transporters, a FAN SONG radar with 6 van trailers, 2 additional probable van trailers, an acquisition radar with generator van, and at least 8 cargo trucks. There were also three large non-soviet-type tents and five canvas-covered probable storage areas. Photography from [REDACTED] revealed that the site had been vacated. All primary equipment and other support equipment had been removed. [REDACTED] revealed that the site had been totally abandoned. No military activity has been noted at or near the site since.

3. Majana No 2 (22-41N 082-49W). This site

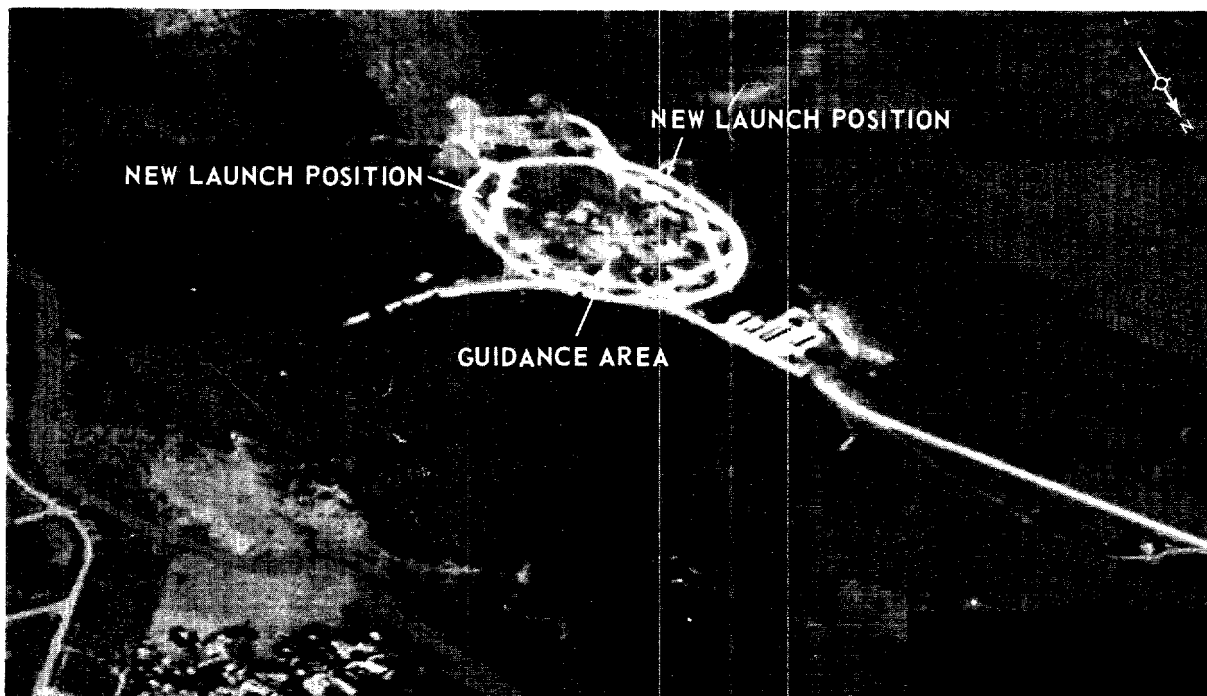
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25X1D

FIGURE 2. PUNTA BALLEMATOS SAM SITE, [REDACTED]

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25X1D

FIGURE 3. PUNTA BALLEMATOS SAM SITE, [REDACTED]

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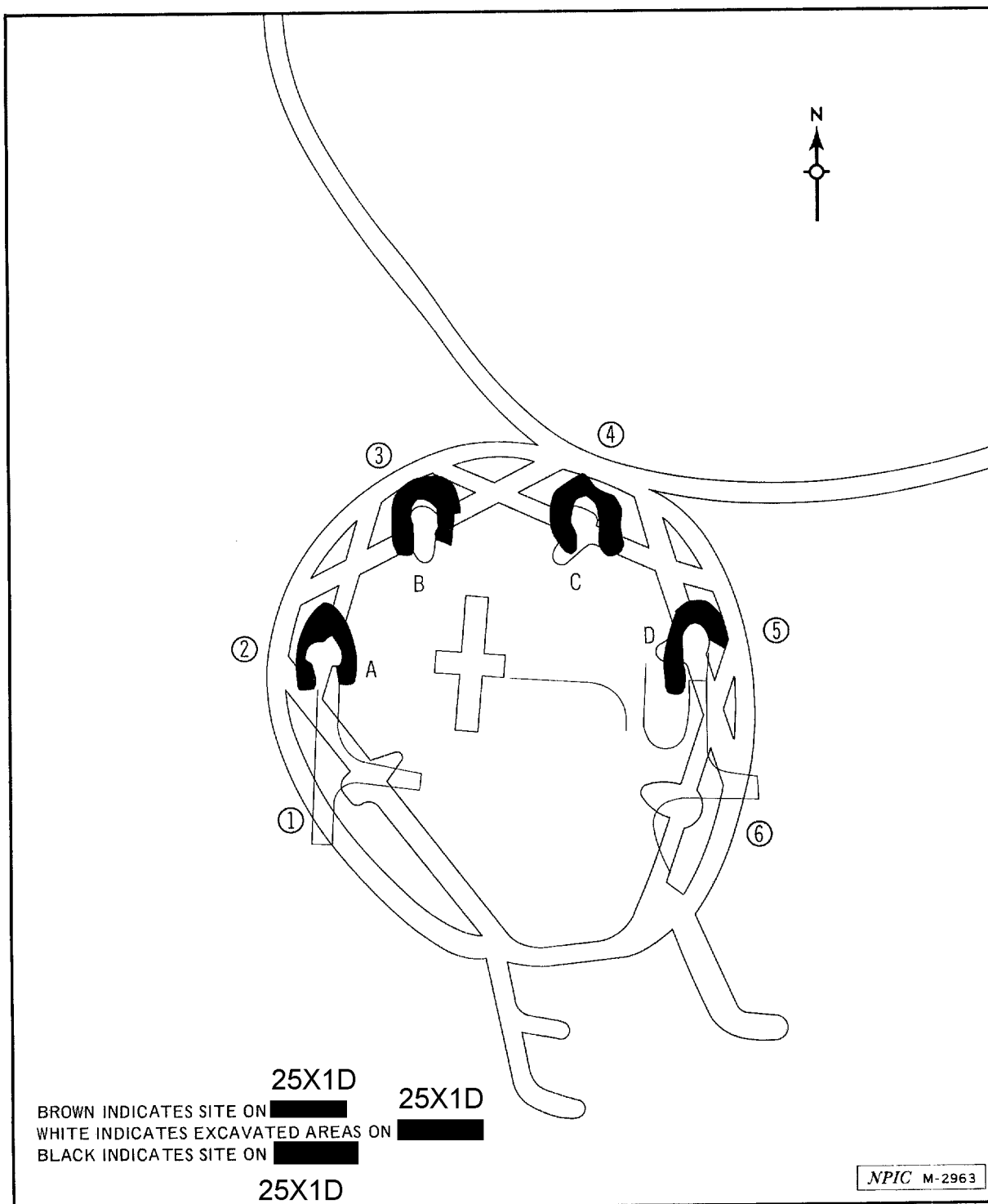


FIGURE 4. PUNTA BALLEMATOS SAM SITE

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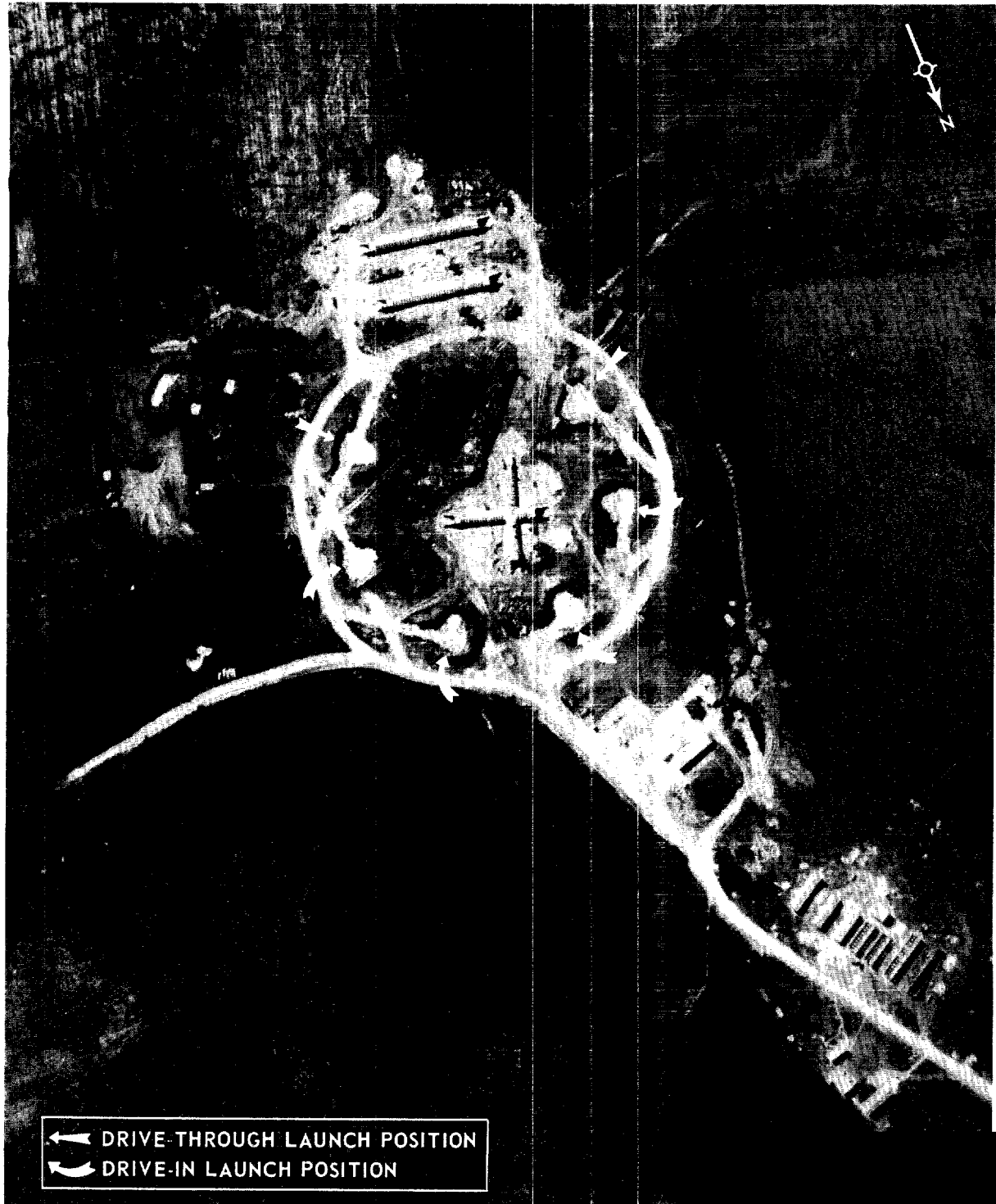


FIGURE 5. PUNTA BALLEMATOS SAM SITE,

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is listed in Figure 1 as operational although the launch positions and guidance areas appeared vacant on [REDACTED]. There were 2 launchers, 3 probable van trailers, 4 cargo trucks, and 2 other vehicles in the support area.

4. El Cano (23-03N 082-29W). This is a unique case where the permanent site and the temporary adjacent site have both continued to be operational over an extended period of time. The temporary site was not abandoned after completion of the permanent site.

5. El Cano No 2 (23-03N 082-29W). This site is listed as operational although it was vacated during this reporting period and was still vacant on the most recent mission, [REDACTED].

SAM Assembly Areas: Five SAM assembly areas are currently active (Figure 6). During the reporting period one area was abandoned (Cifuentes SAM Assembly Area, 22-36N 080-05W) and another was activated (La Esperanza SAM Assembly Area, 22-27N 080-08W). La Esperanza (Figure 7) was first observed on [REDACTED]. At this time all primary and support equipment for missile assembly, including missile transporters, missile canister transporters, truck-mounted cranes, truck tractors, and missile canisters, were present. Administration buildings, barracks, and an occupied AAA site were also found in the area. Except for minor fluctuations, the OB count at this site was relatively constant throughout the period.

SAM Training Areas: Currently, there are two operational SAM training areas in Cuba -- El Chico and Santiago. A third training area, Santa Fe, was operational during part of the reporting period and then vacated. Activity at the three areas was as follows:

1. El Chico (23-00N 082-26W). Observations on [REDACTED] (previous summary) revealed 3 SA-2 launchers, which indicated the possibility of training activity in this area. The launchers were seen on [REDACTED] however, they were absent from the area on [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] revealed that only general military equipment, such as

FA pieces and trucks, remained in the area. The launchers and other SA-2 support equipment had been removed.

2. Santiago (19-58N 075-51W). This area contained SA-2 support equipment throughout the reporting period. The latest observation, [REDACTED], confirms that the area is active in SAM training.

3. Santa Fe (21-44N 082-38W). This site was first observed on [REDACTED] and at this time the area was listed as probably in support of SAM training because of the presence of SA-2 support equipment. [REDACTED] the area was vacant and all military equipment had been removed. On [REDACTED] the area was still vacant.

Cruise-Missile Activity

Cruise-missile installations consist of one operational site, one vacated site, and a major storage area (Figure 8). In addition, cruise-missile-associated equipment was observed in several other locations. Fluctuations in the amount of equipment at all locations was relatively minor and generally similar to that observed during the first half of 1967.

1. Santa Cruz Del Norte (23-09N 081-56W). The operational site was last observed on [REDACTED]. At that time no OB was observed and activity was limited to 5 vehicles/pieces of equipment. The site is still considered operational.

2. Guanabo (23-10N 082-03W). This site was vacant throughout the reporting period.

3. San Jose de Las Lajas (22-55N 082-10W). This is the major cruise-missile storage facility in Cuba. A normal OB is similar to that observed on [REDACTED]. 7 SAMLET launchers, 26 SAMLET transporters, 7 SALISH transporter/launchers, 4 SALISH resupply vehicles, 6 truck tractors, 60 cargo trucks, 4 van trucks, 12 cargo trailers, at least 38 other vehicles/pieces of equipment, and 9 cruise-missile crates.

4. Small quantities of SALISH and SAMLET equipment have been periodically observed at the following locations:

a. Managua Military Camp (22-58N

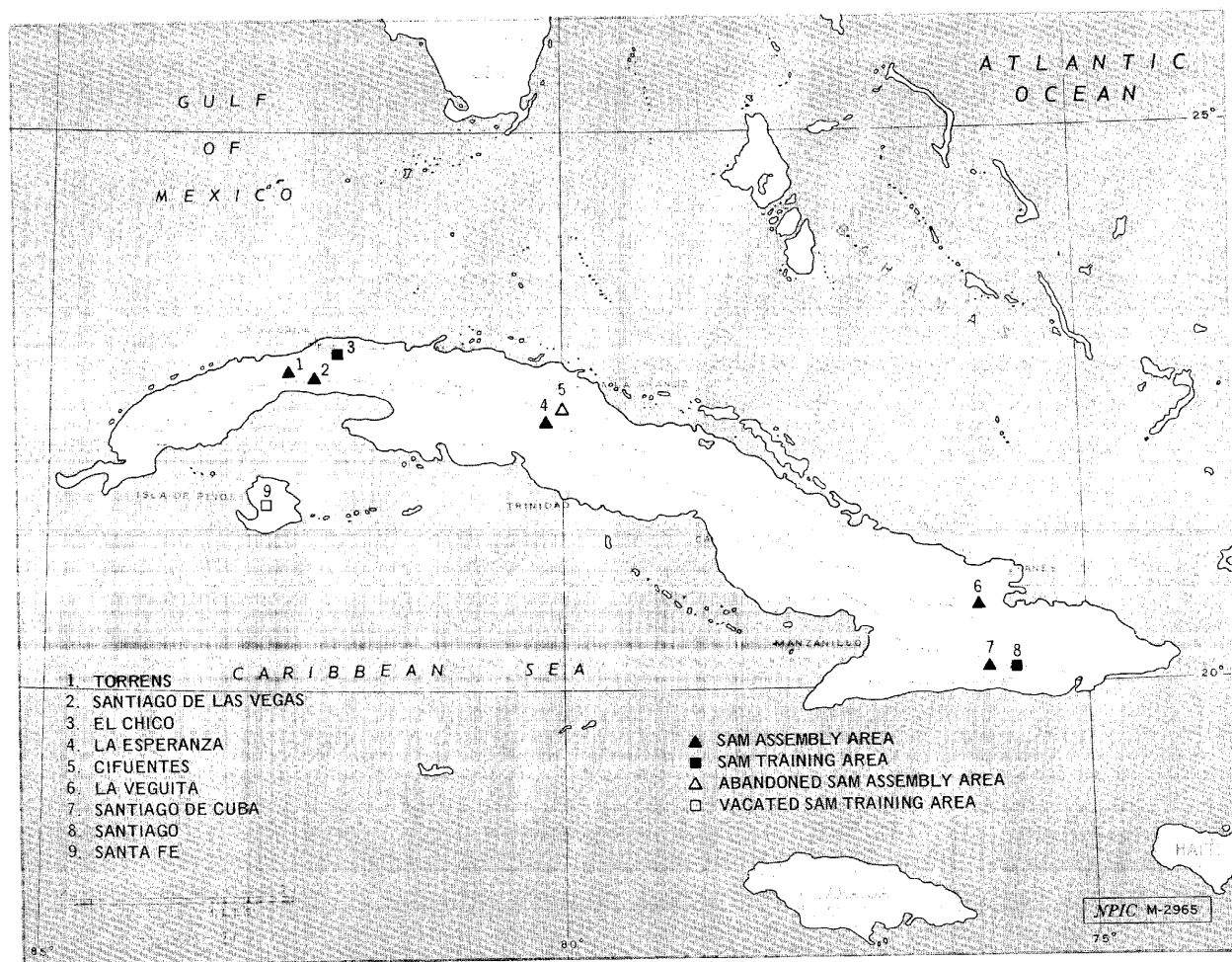
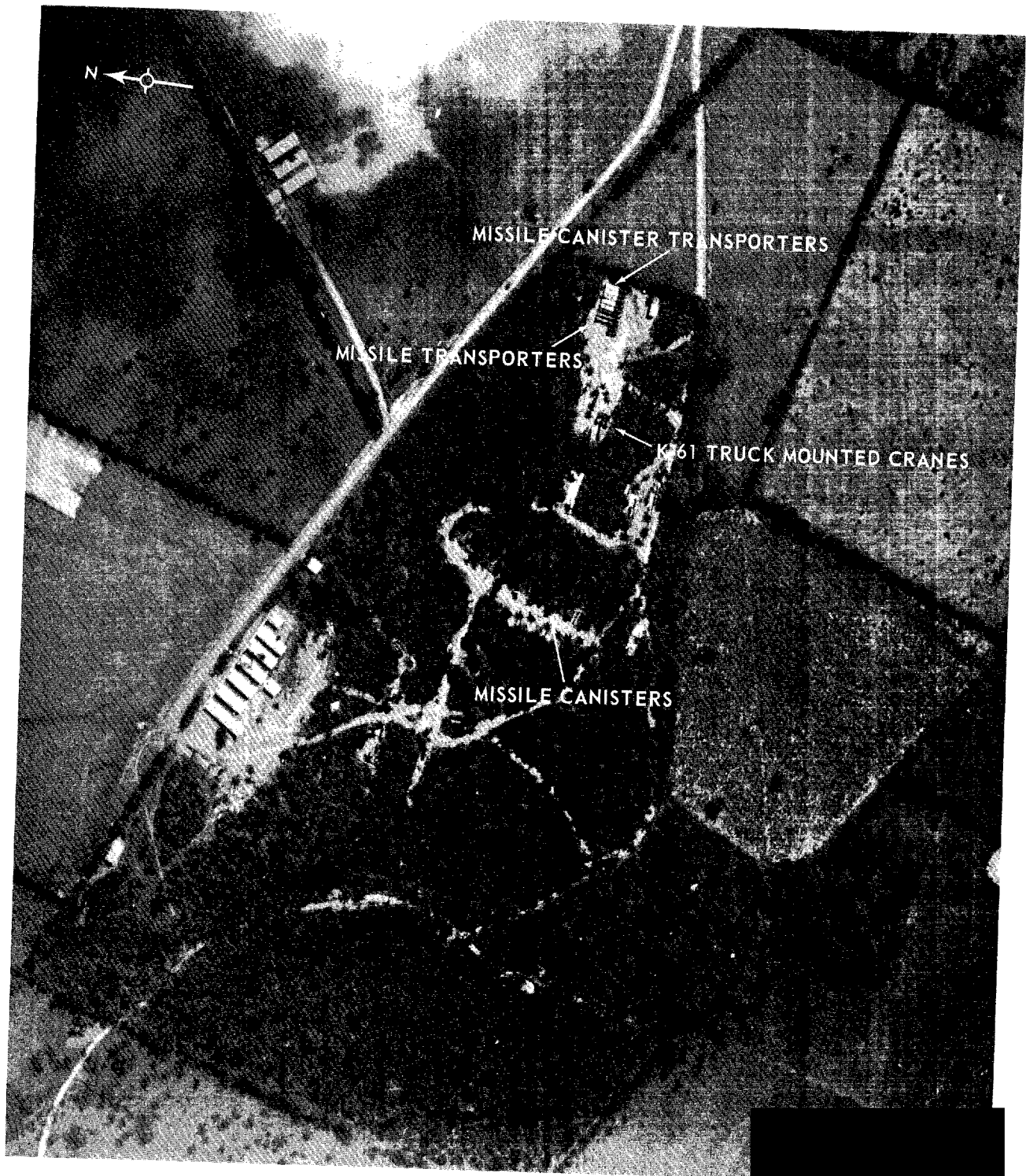


FIGURE 6. DEPLOYMENT OF SAM ASSEMBLY AND TRAINING AREAS

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FIGURE 7. LA ESPERANZA SAM ASSEMBLY AREA

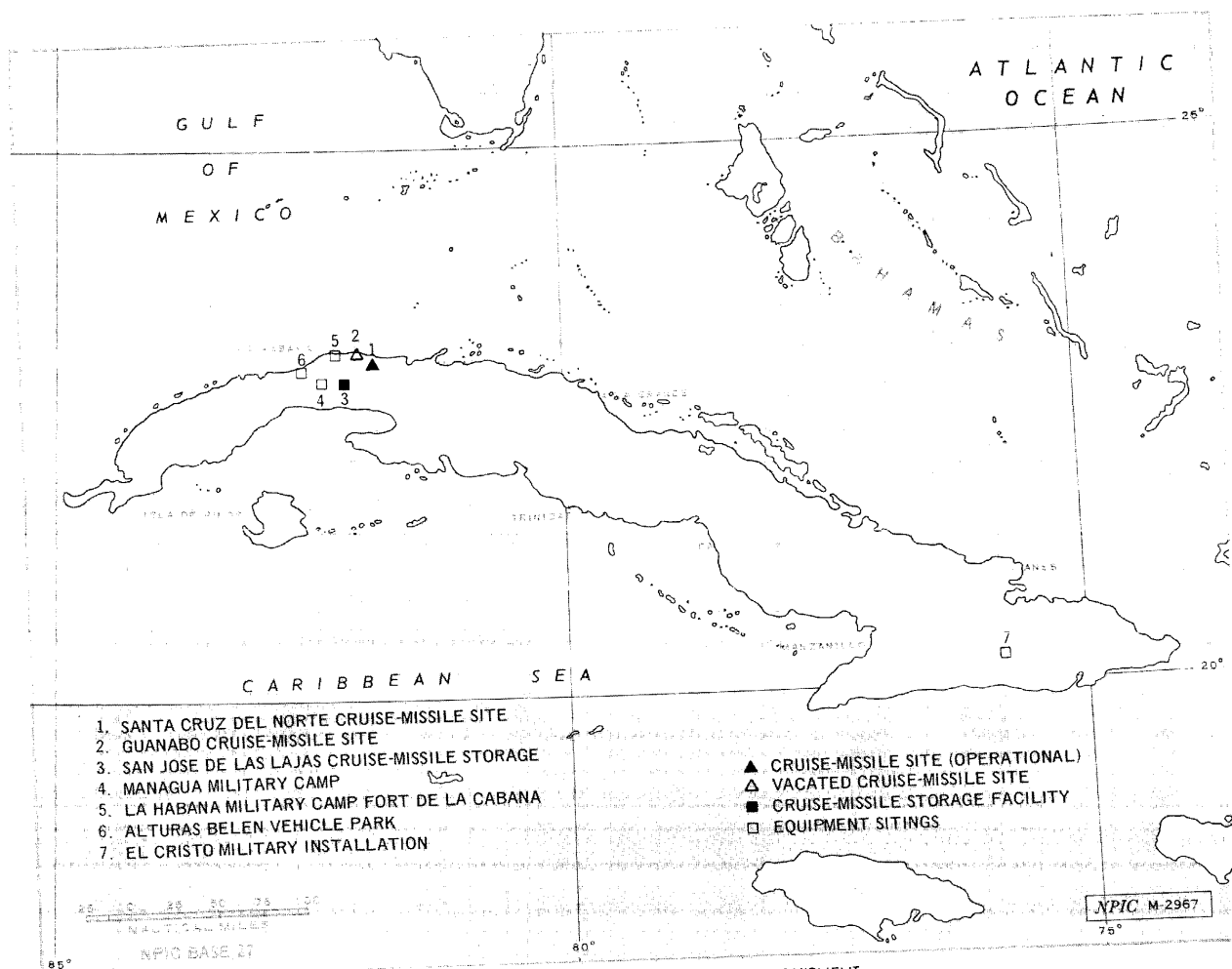


FIGURE 8. DEPLOYMENT OF CRUISE-MISSILE EQUIPMENT

082-17W). Eight SALISH resupply vehicles on

b. La Habana Military Barracks Fort de La Cabana (23-08N 082-20W). Eight SALISH transporter/launchers on

c. Alturas Belen Vehicle Park (23-05N 082-24W). Four SALISH transporter/launchers and 5 resupply vehicles on

d. El Cristo Military Installation (20-10N 075-47W). Three probable SALISH resupply vehicles on

Airfield Activity

Airfield activity, including changes in aircraft count, deployment of aircraft, and major construction, was moderate during the reporting period. The five most active military airfields (Figure 9) are listed below:

1. San Antonio de Los Banos (22-52N 082-30W). This airfield is the primary station for FISHBED aircraft and a high count of 41 was observed on as opposed to a high count of 32 aircraft on during the previous six months. FISHBED were parked on inactive runways, taxiways, aprons, hardstands, and increasingly have been observed parked in front of or near the entrance to bunker-type hangaretttes. Major construction, including runway extensions, taxiways, and bunker-type hangaretttes, is in progress (Figure 10).

2. Camilo Cienfuegos (22-29N 079-56W). This airfield is one of the primary facilities for FAGOT/FRESCO aircraft. The OB fluctuated between 11 and 29 FAGOT/FRESCO during the reporting period. The high count of 29 aircraft was observed on as opposed to a high count of 32 aircraft during the first half of 1967. No major construction was observed during the reporting period.

3. Campo Libertad (23-05N 082-26W). The construction of a new medium size hangar (Figure 11) was observed on. Continued observation revealed that construction of the hangar was progressing rapidly. Aircraft observed included FISHBED, FAGOT/FRESCO, COLT, HIP, HOUND, and HARE.

4. Holguin (20-47N 076-18W). A new terminal building and an aircraft parking apron had been constructed on the NE end of the runway when observed on. Last observation, revealed 7 FISHBED, 13 FAGOT/FRESCO, and 2 HOUND.

5. Antonio Maceo (19-58N 075-50W). Construction on the runway extension (observed during the previous reporting period) continued throughout this reporting period. Aircraft observed included FAGOT/FRESCO, CRATE, C-54, C-47, COLT, Moravia L-200, and HOUND. Last observation of this station revealed 7 FAGOT/FRESCO, 1 CRATE, 1 COLT, and 4 HOUND.

Naval and Port Activity

There was no unusual naval activity during this reporting period. Commercial loading and unloading activities were similar to those of the previous 6 months and included offshore transactions at Caiberien Port (22-31N 079-28W) and at Manzanillo Port (20-21N 077-07W). The most active naval bases and ports (Figure 12) are listed below:

1. Marid Naval Base and Naval Air Station (22-59N 082-44W). OB -- 8 S.O.1 SC on

2. Cabanas Naval Base (22-58N 082-58W). OB -- 11 Komar PTG on

3. Cienfuegos Port and Naval Facility (22-08N 080-27W). OB -- 2 probable Kronshtadt PC, 9 probable P-6 PT on

4. Punta Ballenatos Naval Facility (23-05N 082-30W). OB -- 3 P-4 PT on

5. La Habana Port (23-07N 082-20W). OB -- 1 PF, 1 PCE, 3 Kronshtadt PC, 4 S.O.1 SC, 7 Komar PTG, and 6 P-4 PT. Vessels -- 22 large freighters, 9 coastal freighters, 1 large tanker, 1 coastal tanker, and 2 floating drydocks on

6. Santiago de Cuba Port (20-01N 075-50W). Vessels -- 16 freighters on

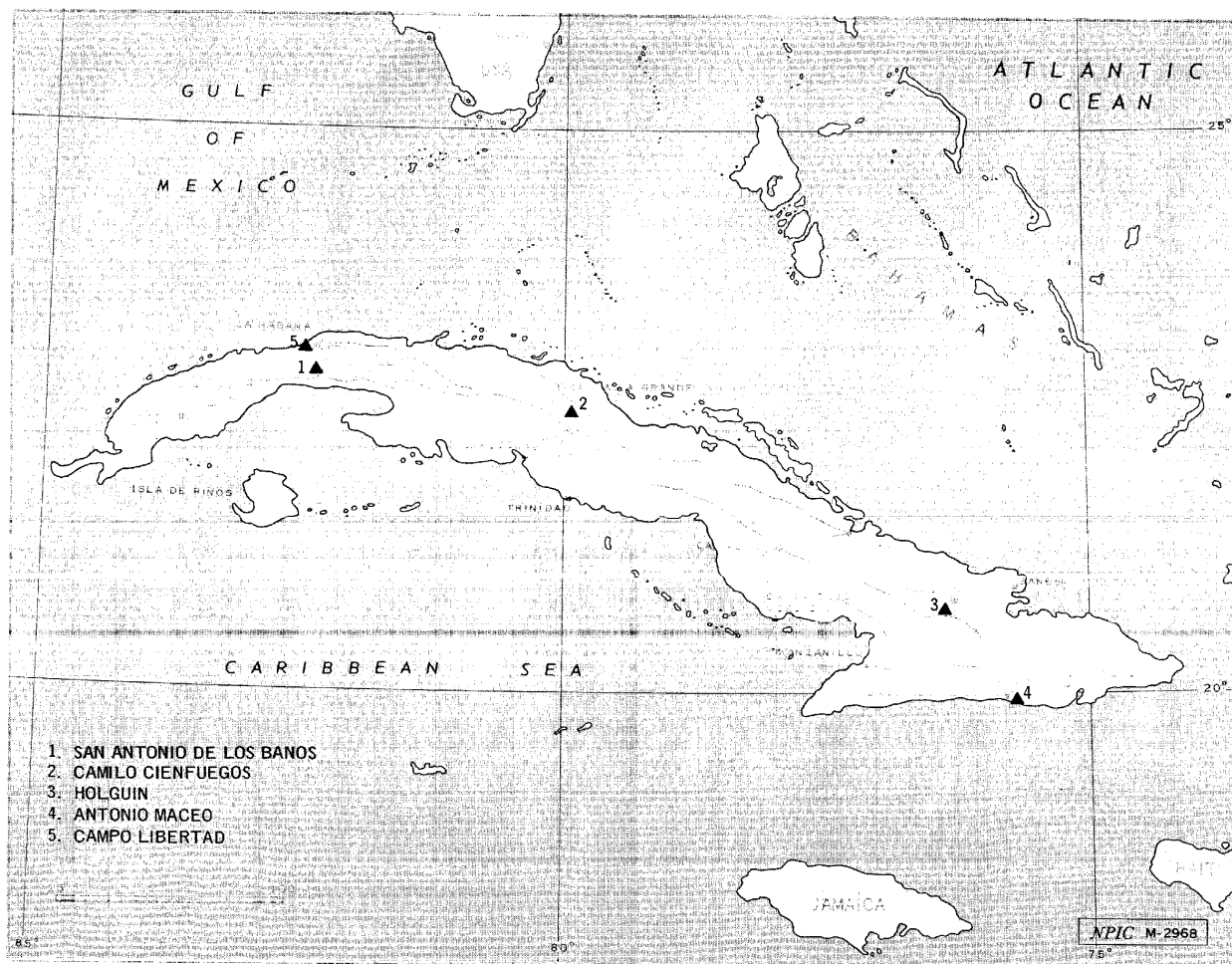
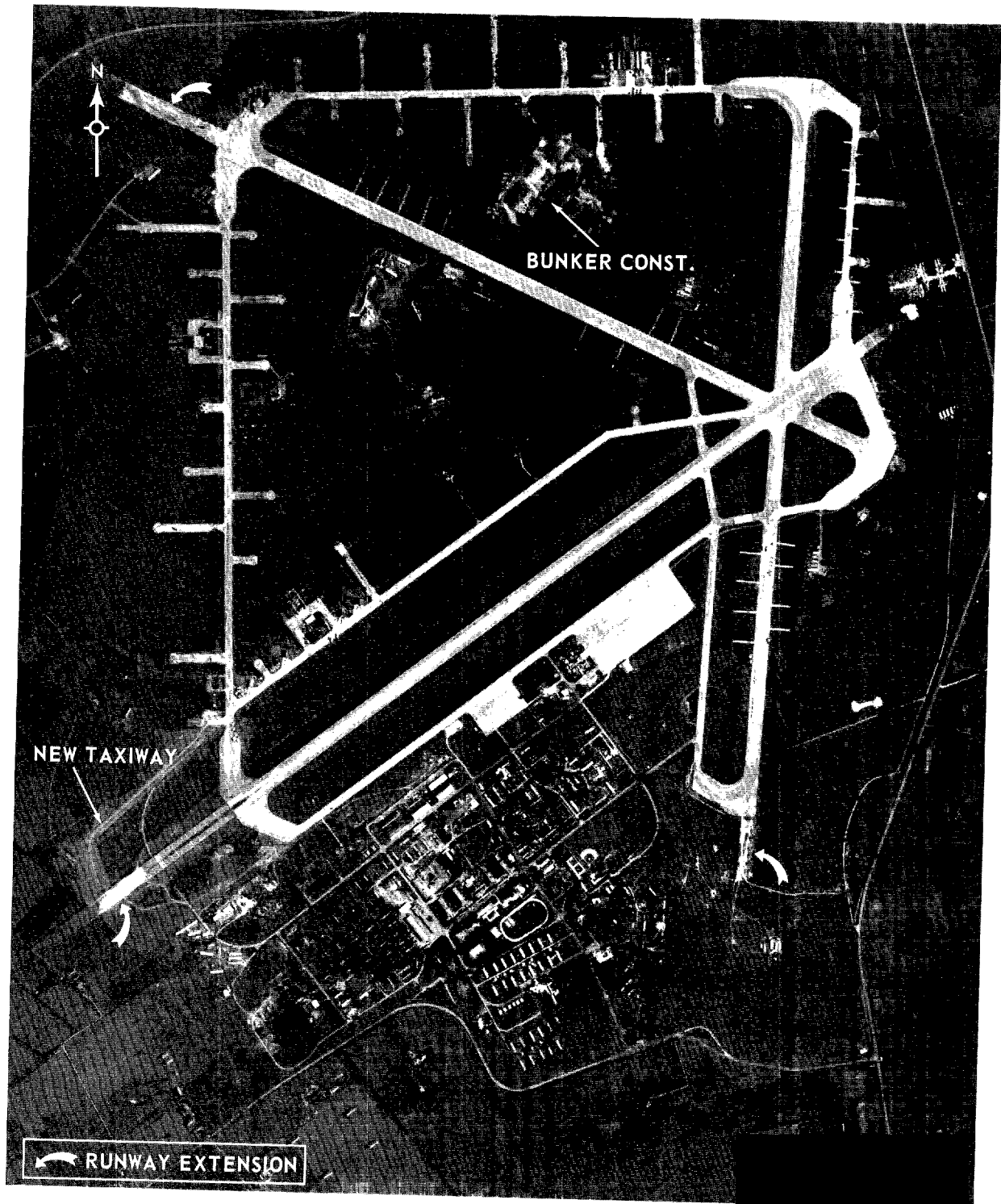


FIGURE 9. MAJOR AIRFIELDS

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FIGURE 10. SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BAÑOS, RUNWAY CONSTRUCTION

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FIGURE 1. CAMPO LIBERTAD, HANGAR CONSTRUCTION

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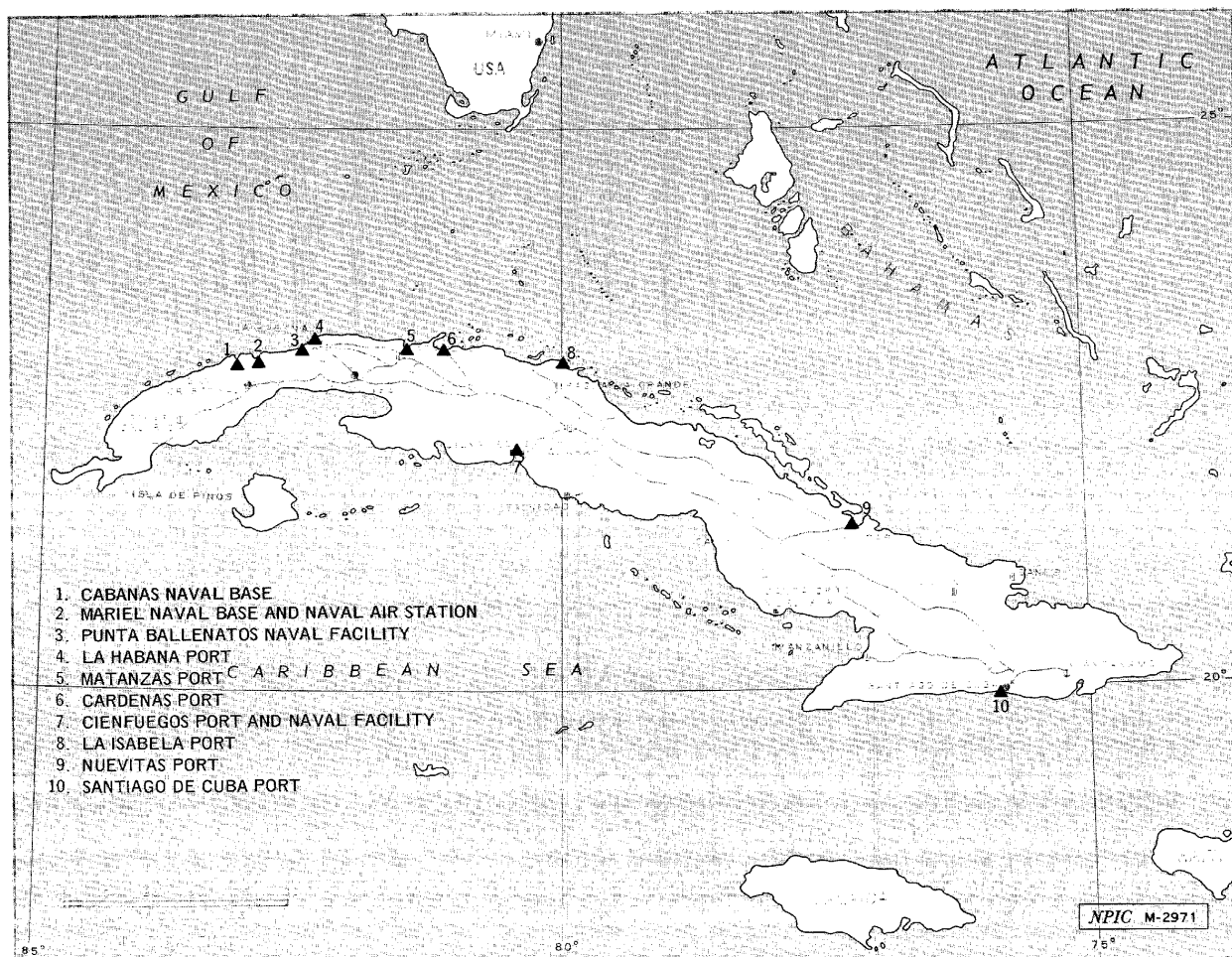


FIGURE 12. MAJOR NAVAL BASES AND PORTS

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25X1D
25X1D
25X1D

No new radar equipment was discovered during this reporting period; however, re-deployment of equipment took place at some of the established sites. Holguin Airfield Radar SW (20-45N 076-21W) is the only remaining active radar site of the five new locations identified during the previous reporting period. Equipment was observed at the following sites:

- [illegible]

25X1D
25X1D
25X1D
25X1D
25X1D

- ### Military Ground Activity

25X1D

- 25X1D
25X1D

- 25X1D
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- 25X1D
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4. La Charca Military Activity (22-46N 080-36W). This is considered to be one of the largest military installations in Cuba. The OB on

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[REDACTED] included 6 probable tanks/ SP guns, 6 FA pieces, 24 AAA pieces/mortars, 17 BTR-6OP, 9 probable BRDM, 33 cargo trucks, 3 cargo trailers, and 17 other vehicles/ pieces of equipment.

Other Activity

1. Storage Bunker Construction: Continuing bunker construction was observed at several locations throughout Cuba. The bunkers are in various stages of construction and appear to be associated with normal military activity. Major construction was observed at the following locations (Figure 14):

- a. Guanajay (22-56N 082-39W)
- b. Mariel Military Camp Loma Go-

bernadora (22-56N 082-51W)

c. San Diego de Nunez Military Camp (22-54N 083-05W)

d. Santa Fe Military Camp La Clarita (21-43N 082-46W)

e. San Antonio de Los Banos AF (22-52N 082-30W)

25X1D

[REDACTED]
g. Bejucal Military Camp SE (22-54N 082-21W)

2. Soviet Space Event Support Ship. A Soviet ship (Figure 15) listed as AGM/SSESS was first observed in Havana Harbor (23-07N 082-20W) on [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] 25X1D

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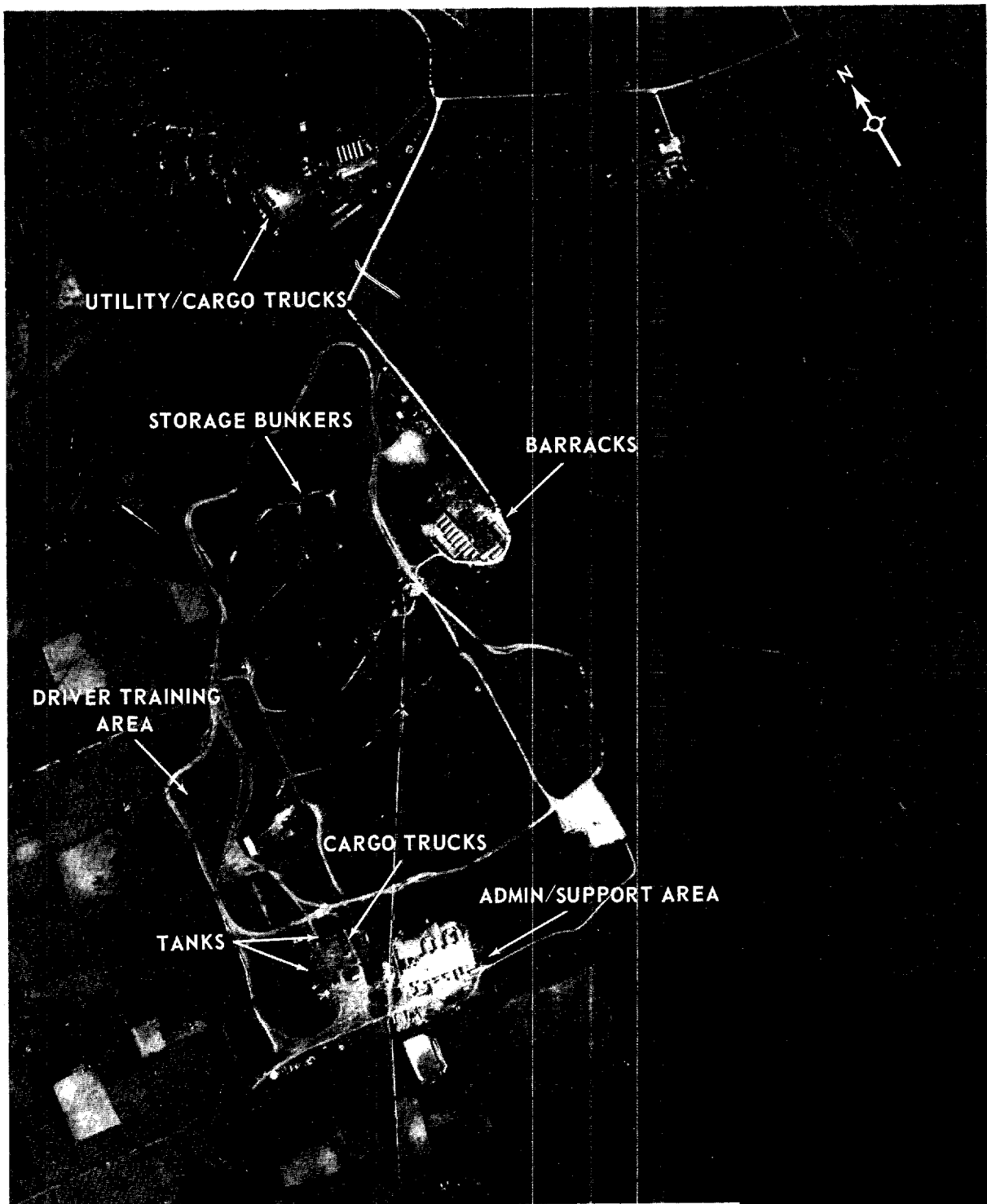


FIGURE 13. BEJUCAL MILITARY CAMP SE, [REDACTED]

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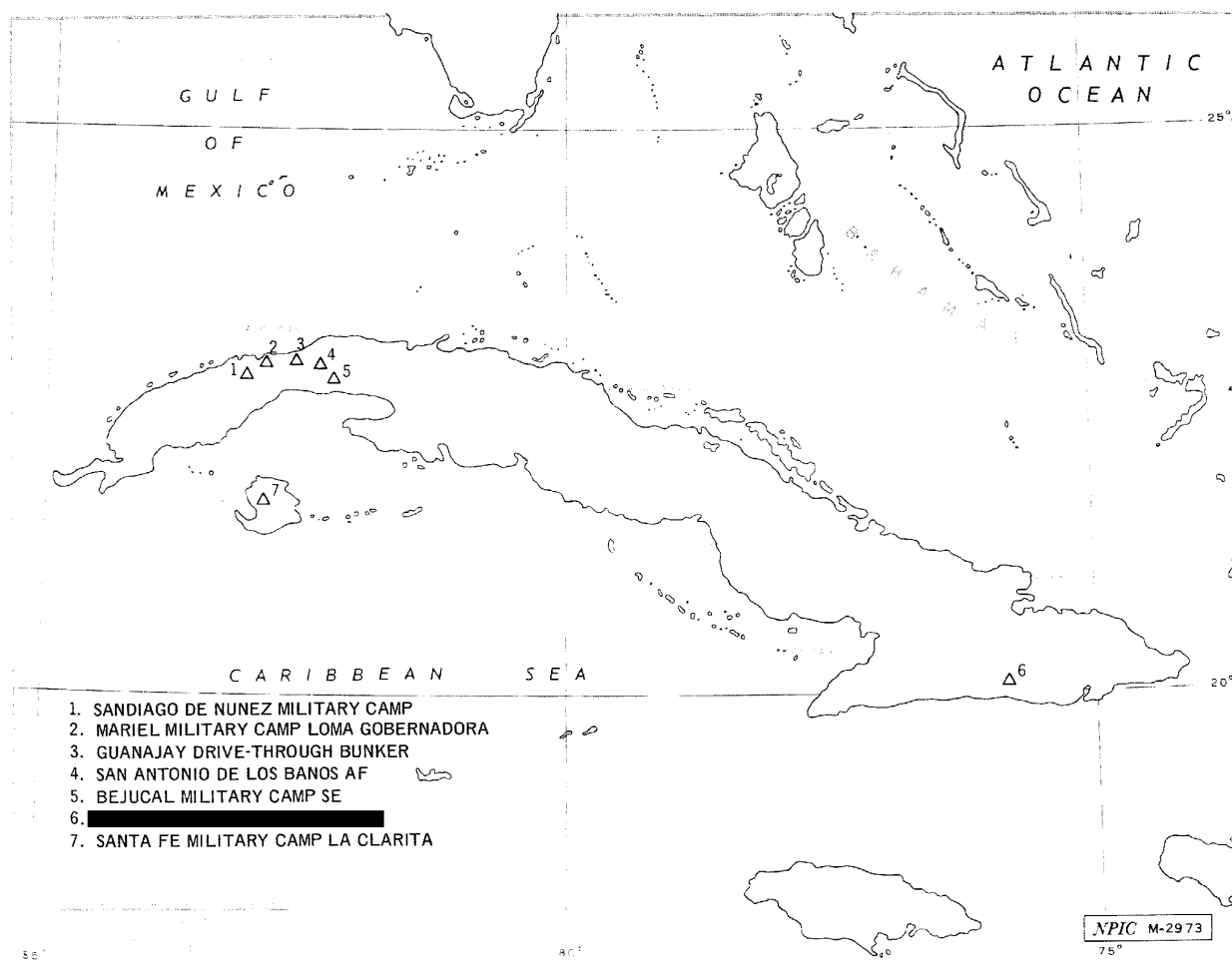


FIGURE 14. MAJOR AREAS OF BUNKER CONSTRUCTION

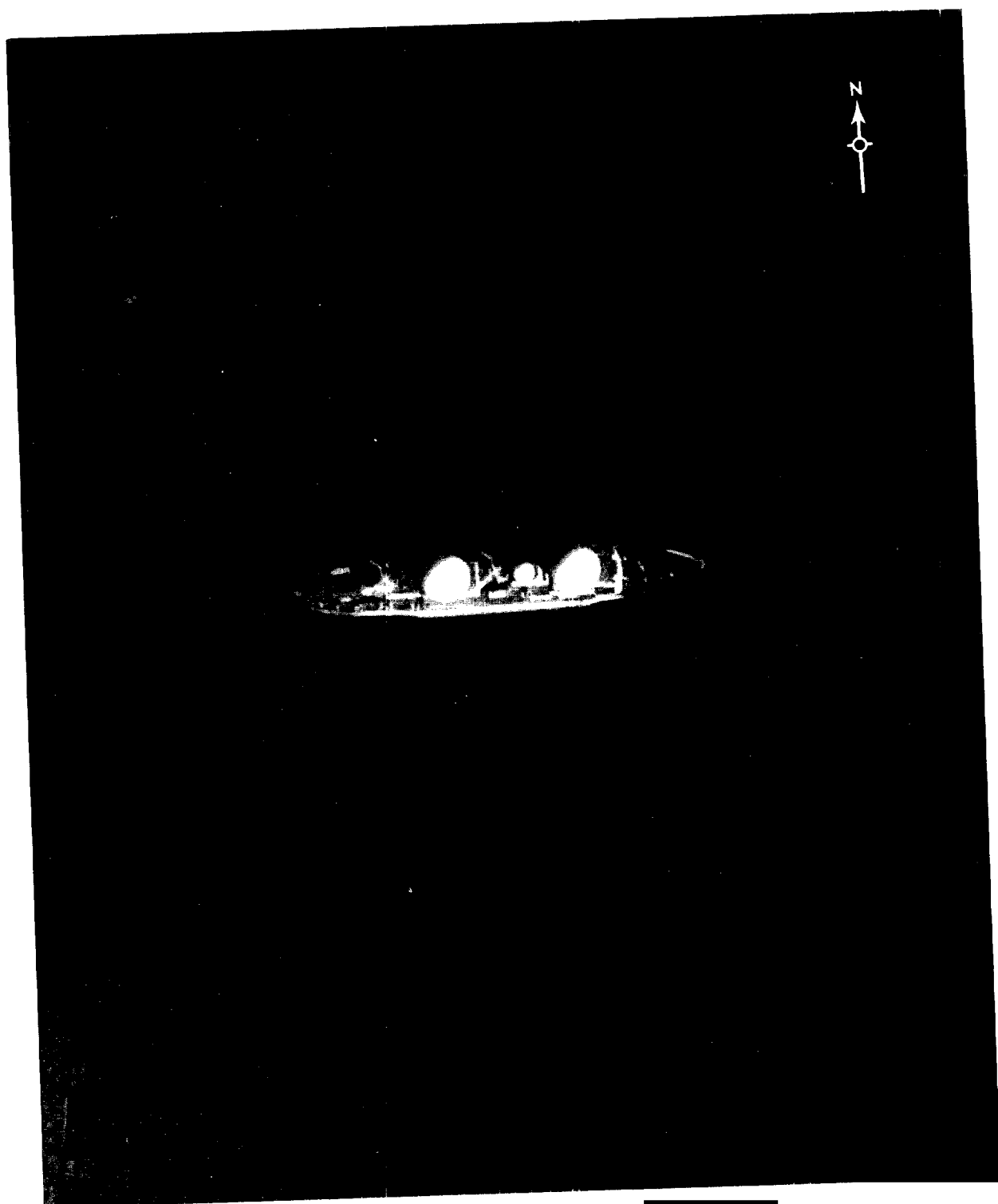


FIGURE 15. SOVIET SPACE EVENT SUPPORT SHIP, [REDACTED]

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